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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

DZ Reserve and Cain Maxwell (d/b/a Max  
Martialis) individually and on behalf of others  
similarly situated,

## Plaintiffs,

V.

FACEBOOK, INC.,

**Defendant.**

Case No.: 3:18-cv-04978

## **THIRD AMENDED CONSOLIDATED CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT**

**DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

## CLASS ACTION

**REDACTED VERSION OF  
DOCUMENT SOUGHT TO BE  
SEALED**

1 Plaintiffs DZ Reserve and Cain Maxwell (d/b/a Max Martialis), individually and on behalf all  
 2 others similarly situated, hereby file suit against Facebook, Inc., and allege the following:

3 **INTRODUCTION**

4 1. Facebook, Inc. (“Facebook”) is a social media company that “generate[s] substantially  
 5 all of [its] revenue from advertising.”<sup>1</sup> In 2017, Facebook earned approximately \$40 billion from  
 6 advertising revenue.<sup>2</sup>

7 2. The core of Facebook’s business is its large purported user base, which ostensibly  
 8 enables advertisements placed on Facebook.com to reach a large number of people. Facebook claims  
 9 to have 2.13 billion monthly active users globally, with over 240 million monthly active users in the  
 10 U.S. alone.<sup>3</sup>

11 3. Before advertisers make a purchase, Facebook represents that their advertisements can  
 12 potentially reach a specified number of people (“Potential Reach”). Facebook defines “potential reach”  
 13 as “an estimation of how many people are in an ad set’s target audience.”<sup>4</sup> Depending on the  
 14 demographic targeting selected by the advertiser, the Potential Reach is often millions of people.  
 15 Facebook also represents that the advertisement will reach an estimated number of people per day  
 16 (“Estimated Daily Reach”). The Estimated Daily Reach is based, in part, on the audience size or  
 17 Potential Reach. According to Facebook, Estimated Daily Reach “gives you an idea of how many of  
 18 the people in your target audience [or Potential Reach] you may be able to reach on a given day.”<sup>5</sup>

19 4. These foundational representations are false. Based on publicly available research and  
 20 Plaintiffs’ own analysis, Facebook overstates the Potential Reach of its advertisements. For example,  
 21 based on publicly available data, Facebook’s purported Potential Reach among the key 18-34 year-old  
 22 demographic in every state exceeds the actual population of 18-34 year-olds. Based on a combination  
 23

24 <sup>1</sup> Facebook, Inc., Annual Report (Form 10-K) for 2017 Fiscal Year, at 41 (Feb. 1, 2018).

25 <sup>2</sup> *Id.*, at 43 (Feb. 1, 2018).

26 <sup>3</sup> See *Facebook’s Ads Manager*, available at <https://www.facebook.com/adsmanager/creation> (last accessed August 1, 2018)

27 <sup>4</sup> See “About potential Reach”, available at <https://www.facebook.com/adsmanager/creation>

28 <sup>5</sup> See *What are “Potential Reach” and “Estimated Daily Reach?”*, available at <https://www.facebook.com/business/help/717368264947302/?ref=u2u> (last accessed August 1, 2018)

1 of publicly available research and Plaintiffs' own analysis, among 18-34-year-olds in Chicago, for  
2 example, Facebook asserted its Potential Reach was approximately 4 times (400%) higher than the  
3 number of real 18-34 year-olds with Facebook accounts in Chicago. Based on a combination of  
4 publicly available research and Plaintiffs' own analysis, Facebook's asserted Potential Reach in Kansas  
5 City was approximately 200% higher than the number of actual 18-54 year-olds with Facebook  
6 accounts in Kansas City. This inflation is apparent in other age categories as well.

7        5. Documents produced by Facebook in this litigation confirm that senior executives at the  
8 company knew for years that its Potential Reach metric was inflated – yet they failed to do anything,  
9 and even took steps to cover up the problem. As explained below, in late 2017 and throughout 2018,  
10 Facebook executives repeatedly acknowledged Potential Reach was inflated and misleading due to,  
11 among other reasons, the fact that Potential Reach includes duplicate and fake accounts. Facebook  
12 failed to fix the problem, noting that [REDACTED] Yet, as the product  
13 manager for Potential Reach put it: [REDACTED]

14 [REDACTED] Facebook's conduct was – and remains – inexcusable. Because Facebook inflated its  
15 Potential Reach, Plaintiffs and putative class members purchased more advertisements from Facebook  
16 and paid a higher price for advertisements than they otherwise would have. Plaintiffs and putative class  
17 members accordingly seek compensation and injunctive relief for violations of California's UCL,  
18 breach of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing, fraudulent misrepresentation, fraudulent  
19 concealment, and for restitution and punitive damages.

## **JURISDICTION**

21       6.     This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d)(2)  
22 because this is a class action wherein the amount in controversy exceeds the sum or value of  
23 \$5,000,000, exclusive of interest and costs, there are more than 100 members in the proposed class,  
24 and at least one member of the class of Plaintiffs is a citizen of a state different from a Defendant.

25       7.     This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant Facebook, Inc., because Facebook,  
26     Inc., is headquartered in California, and conducts business in the state of California.

27       8.     Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1391(b) because a substantial part  
28 of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims occurred in, were directed to, and/or emanated from

1 this District. Venue is also proper because Facebook's terms of service require that claims be resolved  
2 "exclusively in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California or a state court located in  
3 San Mateo County...."<sup>6</sup>

4 **PARTIES**

5 9. Plaintiff DZ Reserve is a company incorporated and headquartered in the state of  
Colorado.

7 10. Plaintiff Cain Maxwell (d/b/a Max Martialis) is a citizen and resident of the state of  
Ohio.

9 11. Defendant Facebook, Inc., is incorporated in Delaware, and its principal place of  
business is 1 Hacker Way, Menlo Park, CA 94025.

11 **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

12 12. Facebook is one of the largest social media companies in the world. It owns and operates  
Facebook.com, as well as Instagram and the WhatsApp Messenger service.

14 13. In 2017, Facebook saw its revenues from online advertisements reach approximately  
\$40 billion.<sup>7</sup>

16 14. In marketing its online advertisement services, Facebook claims that more than 2 billion  
people use Facebook every month.<sup>8</sup> Additionally, in its Ads Manager, Facebook has claimed that 240  
million of those active users are located in the United States.<sup>9</sup>

19 15. Until approximately March 12, 2019, Facebook's Potential Reach was based, at least in  
part, on estimates of the number of people who were active users in the past month.<sup>10</sup> After March 12,

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22 23 <sup>6</sup> Facebook, *Statement of Rights and Responsibilities*, <https://www.facebook.com/terms> (last accessed: June 17, 2019).

24 <sup>7</sup> Facebook, Inc., Annual Report (Form 10-K) for 2017 Fiscal Year, at 41 (Feb. 1, 2018), at 43.

25 <sup>8</sup> Facebook, Inc., Annual Report (Form 10-K) for 2017 Fiscal Year, at 41 (Feb. 1, 2018), at 34.

26 <sup>9</sup> See Facebook's Ads Manager, available at <https://www.facebook.com/adsmanager/creation> (last accessed August 1, 2018).

27 <sup>10</sup> See *Updates to Potential Reach*, available at  
[https://www.facebook.com/business/help/567031670465069?helpref=faq\\_content](https://www.facebook.com/business/help/567031670465069?helpref=faq_content) (last accessed June 14, 2019)

1 2019, Potential Reach is based, at least in part, on how many people have been shown an ad on a  
 2 Facebook Product in the past 30 days who match the respective advertiser's desired audience and  
 3 placement criteria.<sup>11</sup>

4 16. Facebook defines a Monthly Active User (MAU) as a "registered Facebook user who  
 5 logged in and visited Facebook through [Facebook's] website or a mobile device, or used [Facebook's]  
 6 Messenger application (and is also a registered Facebook user), in the last 30 days as of the date of  
 7 measurement. MAUs are a measure of the size of our global active user community."<sup>12</sup>

8 17. Audience size is an important factor when advertisers determine where to spend  
 9 marketing dollars. Indeed, Potential Reach and Estimated Daily Reach are the only information  
 10 Facebook provides to advertisers regarding the anticipated performance of the ad campaign prior  
 11 purchasing an advertisement. Moreover, user inflation can skew an advertiser's decision making,  
 12 which is frequently based on the anticipated reach of the advertising campaign, or "Potential Reach."<sup>13</sup>

13 18. Reach inflation can have "real consequences for an advertiser's overall communications  
 14 plain."<sup>14</sup> For advertisers, "Facebook Ads Manager functions as a tool for an advertiser to plan, budget,  
 15 buy and optimize their own campaigns across Facebook platforms."<sup>15</sup>

16 19. Facebook's large purported potential reach is widely acknowledged as one of the main  
 17 reasons that advertisers choose to purchase advertisements from Facebook.

18 20. For example, an online advertising commentator recently noted that the large number of  
 19 people that can potentially be reached on Facebook is one of the four "reasons why you can't ignore  
 20 Facebook advertising."<sup>16</sup>

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21 22 <sup>11</sup> *Id.*

23 24 <sup>12</sup> Facebook, Inc., Annual Report (Form 10-K) for 2017 Fiscal Year, at 41 (Feb. 1, 2018), at 36

25 26 <sup>13</sup> "Facebook Audience Inflation a Global Issue-Ad News Study", AdNews (September 8, 2017)  
 27 available at <http://www.adnews.com.au/news/facebook-audience-inflation-a-global-issue-adnews-study> (visited July 16, 2018).

28 <sup>14</sup> Video Advertising Bureau, "Facebook's Reach (on Reach), Miscalculations in the Age of Precision", p. 19, September 2017, available at <https://www.thevab.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Facebooks-Reach.pdf> (accessed August 6, 2018).

<sup>15</sup> *Id.*

<sup>16</sup> "4 Reasons Why You Can't Ignore Facebook Advertising," InstaPage (September 10, 2018)

1        21.     Similarly, Aleksandar Radonjic, the Founder and Chief Growth Strategist at Evolving  
 2 Digital (a digital marketing agency) explained in his blog post, “Why Facebook Has To Be Included in  
 3 Your Marketing Plan” that “big brands understand the value of Facebook and are actively engaged with  
 4 their customers. Small and medium-sized organizations have to do the same, even if you are a small  
 5 local business *because the potential reach is unmatched by any other social media platform.*” (emphasis  
 6 added).<sup>17</sup>

7        22.     Moreover, Facebook itself encourages advertisers to refer to the Potential Reach after  
 8 they have started an advertising campaign to determine the percentage of their target audience that they  
 9 have reached.<sup>18</sup>

10 **I.     Facebook’s Representations to Advertisers**

11        23.     In describing the advantages of advertising on its website, Facebook tells advertisers  
 12 that “[t]wo billion people use Facebook every month.”<sup>19</sup>

13        24.     Facebook touts the reach of its platform, telling advertisers “Show your ads to more  
 14 people in more places. Improve your reach by running your ads across Facebook, Instagram, and  
 15 Audience Network.”<sup>20</sup>

16        25.     Facebook makes these representations when advertisers purchase advertisements from  
 17 Facebook, which they do through Facebook’s “Ads Manager.”

18        26.     The terms on the “Ads Manager” are part of Facebook’s contract with advertisers.

19        27.     The “Ads Manager” provides only two data points related to audience size, “Potential  
 20 Reach” and “Estimated Daily Results Reach.” The Estimated Daily Results Reach is derived in part  
 21 from the Potential Reach audience size. Facebook’s Estimated Daily Reach “gives you an idea of how

23 https://instapage.com/blog/4-reasons-facebook-advertising-can-t-be-ignored (last accessed December  
 19, 2018).

24        17 “Why Facebook Has to Be Included in Your Marketing Plan,” Aleksandar Radonjic,  
 25 http://www.evolving-digital.com/resources/Facebook-Marketing (last accessed December 19, 2018).

26        18 https://www.facebook.com/business/help/1639908612985580 (last accessed December 19,  
 27 2018).

28        19 Quoted from https://www.facebook.com/business/products/ads (accessed August 13, 2018).

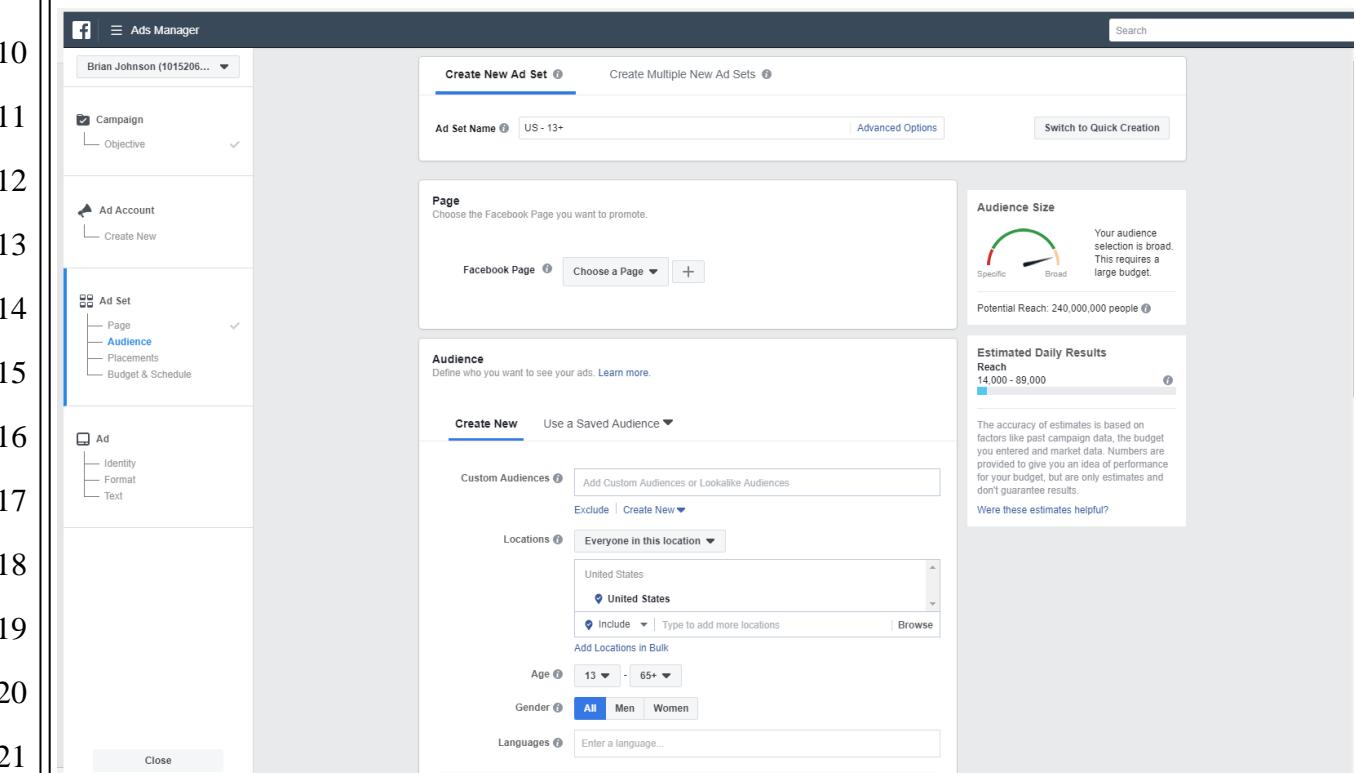
20 *Id.*

1 many of the people in your target audience [or Potential Reach] you may be able to reach on a given  
 2 day.”<sup>21</sup>

3       28. The Potential Reach and the Estimated Daily Results Reach are provided to every  
 4 advertiser who purchases advertisements through Ads Manager, and are part of Facebook’s contract  
 5 with advertisers.

6       29. On the “Ads Manager,” advertisers can target their advertisement to users of different  
 7 demographics. *See Figure 1.* Using the demographic criteria on “Ads Manager,” advertisers can target  
 8 people in various locations, age ranges, or genders.

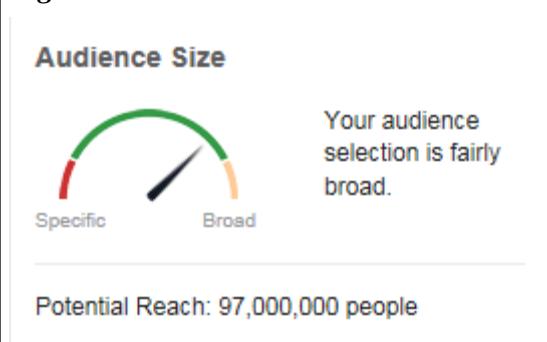
9 ***Figure 1***



22       30. Regardless of the demographic criteria used to target the advertisements, the “Ads  
 23 Manger” shows a graphic with the audience size based on the criteria that advertisers selected. *See*  
 24 *Figure 2.*

25  
 26  
 27       <sup>21</sup> See What are “Potential Reach” and “Estimated Daily Reach?”, available at  
 28 <https://www.facebook.com/business/help/717368264947302/?ref=u2u> (last accessed August 1, 2018)

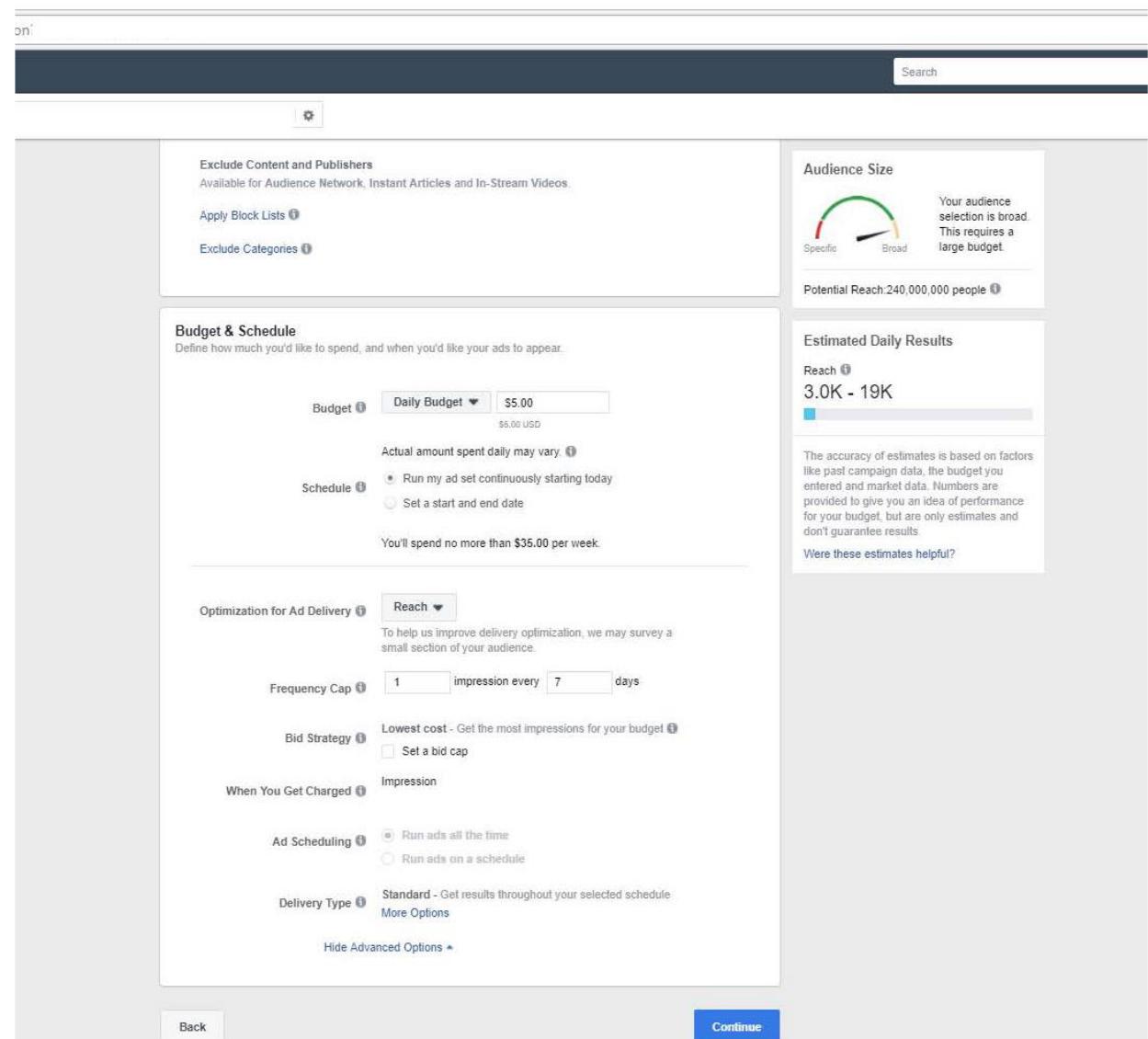
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2  
**Figure 2**

31. Below the audience size graphic, the “Ads Manager” states “Potential Reach: \_\_\_\_\_ people.” See Figure 2. The “Ads Manager” displays the “Potential Reach” statistic before the advertiser purchases the advertisement.

32. Facebook consistently represents that the Potential Reach is a measurement of actual *people*, not just accounts.

1       33. The Ads Manager graphic displaying the Potential Reach and Estimated Daily Results  
 2 Reach is shown on multiple consecutive pages on Ads Manager where advertisers input information  
 3 before purchasing an advertisement. *See Exhibit 1, Facebook's Ads Manager.*<sup>22</sup> The Potential Reach  
 4 and Estimated Daily Reach are included on the same page where advertisers set the budget and schedule  
 5 for their advertisements:



The screenshot shows the Facebook Ads Manager setup screen. On the left, there are sections for 'Exclude Content and Publishers' (Available for Audience Network, Instant Articles and In-Stream Videos), 'Apply Block Lists', and 'Exclude Categories'. On the right, the 'Audience Size' section indicates a 'Broad' selection with a green progress bar and notes a 'large budget'. Below it, the 'Estimated Daily Results' section shows a reach range of '3.0K - 19K' with a blue progress bar. The central area contains the 'Budget & Schedule' section, which includes a 'Daily Budget' of '\$5.00' and a note about actual spending. It also has options for 'Run my ad set continuously starting today' or 'Set a start and end date', with a note that spending will not exceed '\$35.00 per week'. Further down, there are sections for 'Optimization for Ad Delivery' (Reach dropdown, survey note), 'Frequency Cap' (1 impression every 7 days), 'Bid Strategy' (Lowest cost selected), 'When You Get Charged' (Impression), 'Ad Scheduling' (Run ads all the time selected), and 'Delivery Type' (Standard selected). At the bottom, there are 'Back' and 'Continue' buttons.

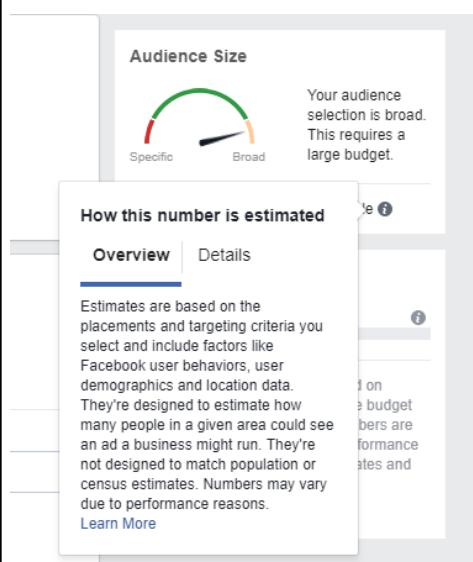
24       34. When an advertiser clicks on the “i” icon next to the Potential Reach, Facebook’s  
 25 website states, “Estimates are based on the placements and targeting criteria you select and include  
 26

27       22 Exhibit 1 to Plaintiffs’ Second Amended Consolidated Class Action Complaint is identical to  
 28 ECF No. 66-3 (Exhibit C to Facebook’s Motion to Dismiss Consolidated Class Action Complaint).

1 factors like Facebook user behaviors, user demographics and location data. They're designed to  
 2 estimate how many *people* in a given area could see an ad a business might run. They're not designed  
 3 to match population or census estimates. Numbers may vary due to performance reasons." (emphasis  
 4 added) See Figure 3.

5 35. Yet, Facebook fails to disclose to advertisers that its Potential Reach statistic is inflated.

6 **Figure 3**



7 36. When an advertiser clicks on "Learn More" for potential reach, Facebook's website  
 8 states, "Potential reach is an estimation of how many *people* are in an ad set's target audience.... It  
 9 updates in real time as you create or edit your ad set to help you understand how your targeting and  
 10 placement choices affect the number of *people* you could reach." (emphasis added) See Figure 4.  
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2 **Figure 4**

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## About potential reach

4

Potential reach is an estimation of how many people are in an ad set's target audience. This estimation is a unique calculation by Facebook (more on our methodology below) and isn't intended to align with third party calculations or population census data. It updates in real time as you create or edit your ad set to help you understand how your targeting and placement choices affect the number of people you could reach.

5

The number of people you actually end up reaching depends on your budget and performance. For that estimation, check your estimated daily results (and keep in mind those results apply to each day, not the total results for your ad set).

6

37. Facebook's Advertiser Help Center states that the "Potential Reach is an estimation of the potential number of people your ads could reach."<sup>23</sup>

7

**II. Facebook's Potential Reach is Inflated**

8

38. According to Census data, the U.S. population numbered over 320 million individuals in 2017, with just over 250 million adults over 18 years old.<sup>24</sup>

9

39. Facebook represents to advertisers a Potential Reach of 230 million monthly active users over the age of 18 in the U.S.<sup>25</sup>

10

40. According to a 2018 survey from the Pew Research Center, 68% of U.S. adults, aged 18 and over, use Facebook.<sup>26</sup> Based on this 68% figure, only 170 million U.S. adults have a Facebook account. Thus, Facebook represents to advertisers that it has approximately 35% more users in the United States than it actually does.

11

41. Using the usage rate estimate provided by Pew Research Center, Facebook's Potential Reach is inflated with respect to the 18 years and over demographic in the four largest states, as set

12

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<sup>23</sup> Quoted from <https://www.facebook.com/business/help> (accessed August 13, 2018).

13

<sup>24</sup> See United States Census Bureau's "*American Fact Finder*" available at [https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=PEP\\_2017\\_PEPAGESEX&prodType=table](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=PEP_2017_PEPAGESEX&prodType=table) (last accessed August 1, 2018).

14

<sup>25</sup> See Facebook's *Ads Manager*, available at <https://www.facebook.com/adsmanager/creation> (last accessed August 1, 2018)

15

<sup>26</sup> Pew Research Center, March 2018, "Social Media Use in 2018".

16

1 forth below:

| <u>State</u> | <u>Estimated Actual Facebook Users<sup>27</sup></u> | <u>Facebook's Claimed Reached<sup>28</sup></u> | <u>Inflation Rate</u> |
|--------------|---|--|-----------------------|
| California   | 20.7 million  | 30 million                                     | 45%                   |
| Texas        | 14.2 million  | 21 million                                     | 48%                   |
| Florida      | 11.4 million  | 16 million                                     | 40%                   |
| New York     | 10.6 million  | 16 million                                     | 50%                   |

7       42. Among the most important – if not the most important – demographic for advertisers is  
8 the 18-34 year-old audience. This is because younger audiences are generally believed to have less  
9 brand loyalty and more disposable income.<sup>29</sup>

10      43. Even more inflated is the key marketing demographic of young adults aged 18-34, where  
11 the U.S. population in 2017 numbered just under 76 million.<sup>30</sup> Facebook represents to advertisers that  
12 it can reach 100 million people in this age category.<sup>31</sup> Accordingly, Facebook claims that it can reach  
13 24 million more people in this demographic than actually exist. Additionally, according to Pew  
14 Research only 80% of this demographic actually use Facebook.<sup>32</sup> Thus, only 61 million 18-34 year-  
15 olds are actually using Facebook, resulting in a nationwide inflation rate of 64%.

16      44. Nor can this discrepancy be explained by non-resident travelers. Facebook indicates that  
17 its Potential Reach among 18-34 year olds in the United States includes less than 2 million non-resident  
18 travelers. *See Figure 5.*

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21      <sup>27</sup> These figures are based on the U.S. Census Bureau's estimated demographic size and  
22 accounting for the national average of Facebook participation as determined by Pew Research's  
polling data of 68%.

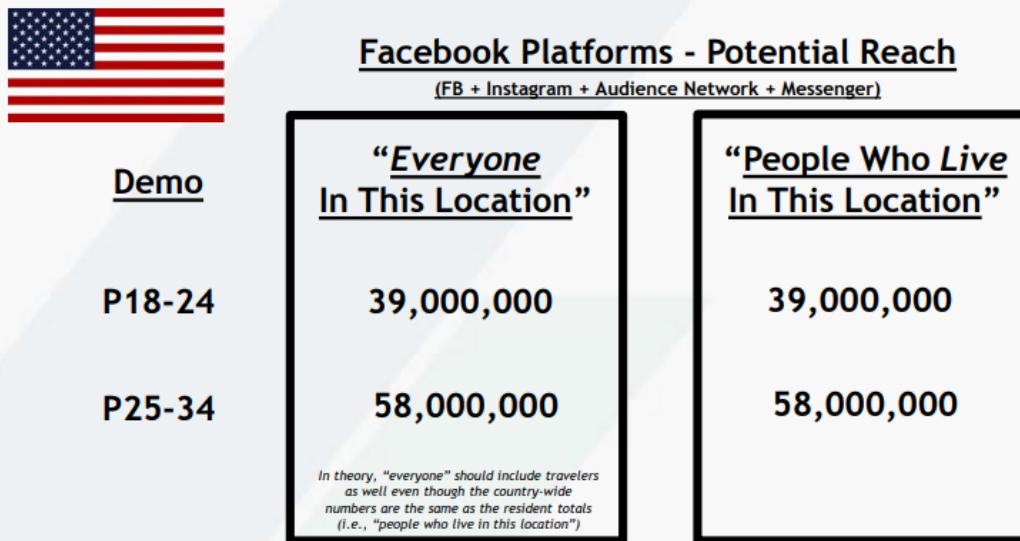
23      <sup>28</sup> *See Facebook's Ads Manager*, available at <https://www.facebook.com/adsmanager/creation>  
(last accessed August 1, 2018)

24      <sup>29</sup> *See e.g.*, Weinman, Jaime J. (2012). "Television's mid-life crisis." *Maclean's*. 125 (27): 72

25      <sup>30</sup> *See United States Census Bureau's "American Fact Finder"*, available at  
[https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=PEP\\_2017\\_PEPSY\\_ASEXN&prodType=table](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=PEP_2017_PEPSY_ASEXN&prodType=table) (last accessed August 1, 2018).

27      <sup>31</sup> *See Facebook's Ads Manager*, available at <https://www.facebook.com/adsmanager/creation>  
(last accessed August 1, 2018)

28      <sup>32</sup> Pew Research Center, March 2018, "Social Media Use in 2018".

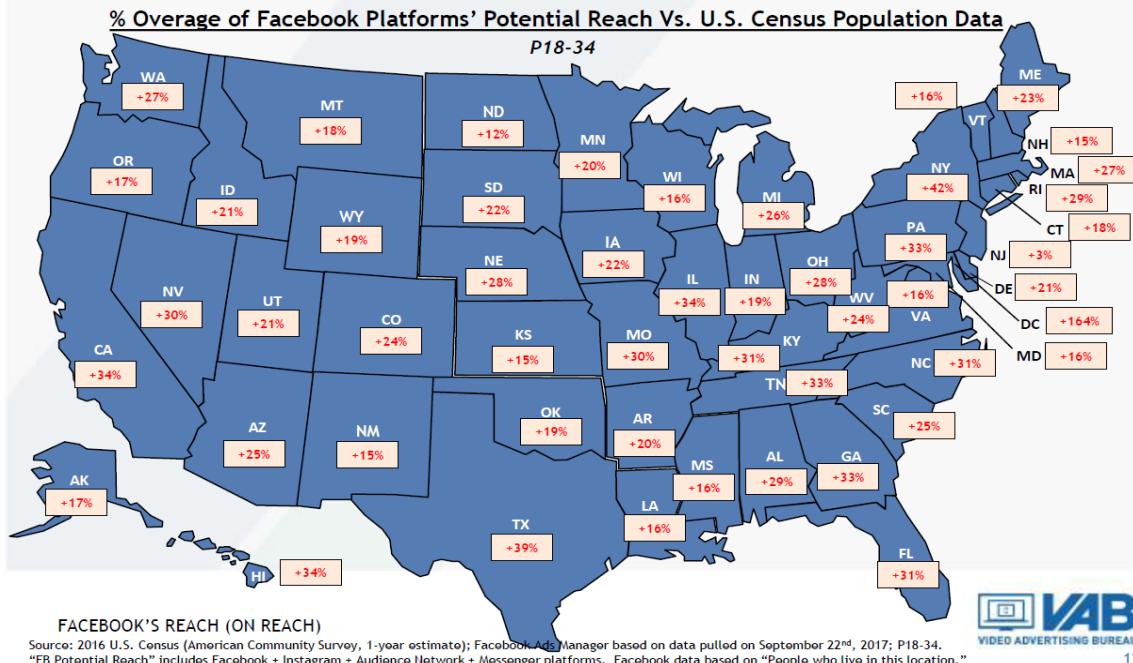
1 **Figure 5**2  
3 **Interestingly, There's No Difference In The Potential Reach**  
4 **Between "Everyone" In The U.S. & Those That "Live" Here**5 Although it'd be expected that "everyone in this location" would include non-resident travelers,  
6 this universe within Facebook Ads Manager reflects the same size as "people who live in this location"

15 Note: there are only 670K and 940K identified within the potential reach as those who are "traveling in this location" among P18-24 &amp; P25-34, respectively

16 45. Publicly available research has shown that the Potential Reach for 18-34 year-olds is  
17 not only overstated at a national level but exceeds the U.S. Census Population Data in every state. See  
18 Figure 6.<sup>33</sup>28 <sup>33</sup> Video Advertising Bureau Report, at 13.

Figure 6

In **Every** State, Facebook Claims They Can Reach More P18-34 Residents Than What Is Reported By The U.S. Census Bureau



46. The difference between Facebook's Potential Reach and U.S. Census Bureau statistics can be illustrated at the metropolitan level as well. For example, the following chart provides examples of the massive inflation of Facebook's claimed Potential Reach in selected cities:

47. Other examples<sup>34</sup> from September 2017 for the 18-34 year-old demographic include:

| <b>City</b>  | <b>18-34 year-old Census Pop.</b> | <b>Facebook's Claimed Reach</b> | <b>Inflation Rate</b> |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Dallas       | 379,567                           | 1,200,000                       | 216%                  |
| Houston      | 645,229                           | 1,800,000                       | 179%                  |
| Los Angeles  | 1,125,300                         | 2,700,000                       | 140%                  |
| New York     | 2,305,171                         | 4,100,000                       | 78%                   |
| Philadelphia | 459,386                           | 1,100,000                       | 139%                  |
| Phoenix      | 410,220                           | 720,000                         | 76%                   |
| San Antonio  | 401,801                           | 690,000                         | 72%                   |
| San Diego    | 434,646                           | 760,000                         | 75%                   |
| San Jose     | 256,343                           | 490,000                         | 91%                   |

48. Because not every 18-34 year-old has a Facebook Account, the discrepancy between

<sup>34</sup> See Video Advertising Bureau Report, at 14.

1 Facebook's Potential Reach for the 18-34 year-old demographic and the Census Population does not  
 2 capture the full extent to which Facebook's Potential Reach is overstated.

3       49. For example, Plaintiffs commissioned their own survey to determine the percentage of  
 4 18-34 years old in Chicago who have a Facebook account. The survey found that 59% of 18-34 year-  
 5 olds in Chicago have Facebook accounts. In September 2017 in Chicago, Facebook's Potential Reach  
 6 was 1,900,000. However, the Census Population for 18-34 year-olds in Chicago was only 808,785.<sup>35</sup>  
 7 Thus, based on this comparison alone, Facebook's Potential Reach for 18-34 years old in September  
 8 2017 was 2.35 times the Census Population.

9       50. The inflation of Facebook's Potential Reach is even more dramatic when compared to  
 10 the survey. In 2017, based on the survey described above, approximately 485,000 actual Chicago  
 11 residents between 18-34 had Facebook accounts. Therefore, when Facebook represented that the  
 12 "Potential Reach" for this demographic was 1,900,000, it was almost 4 times that true number of people  
 13 potentially reached.

14       51. A similar analysis reveals dramatic inflation of the Potential Reach number in Kansas  
 15 City. Among the 18-54-year-olds demographic in the Kansas City metropolitan area, Facebook claims  
 16 advertisements placed on its marketplace have the potential to reach 1.4 million people.<sup>36</sup>

17       52. But the 18-54 demographic in the Kansas City metropolitan area only consists of  
 18 approximately 1 million people.<sup>37</sup> And even then, based on survey data commissioned by the Plaintiff  
 19 only 70% of that demographic has Facebook accounts. This puts the inflation rate in Kansas City at  
 20 100%.

### 21 **III. Facebook's User Base Inflation Is Material**

22       53. Advertising purchasers, including Plaintiffs DZ Reserve and Cain Maxwell, viewed the  
 23 "Potential Reach" as an important statistic because it means that more individuals could potentially

25       <sup>35</sup> *Id.*

26       <sup>36</sup> See Facebook's *Ads Manager*, available at <https://www.facebook.com/adsmanager/creation>  
 (last accessed August 1, 2018)

27       <sup>37</sup> See United States Census Bureau's "*American Fact Finder*", available at  
 28 [https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=DEC\\_10\\_SF1\\_QT\\_P2&prodType=table](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=DEC_10_SF1_QT_P2&prodType=table) (last accessed August 1, 2018).

1 view their advertisement.

2 54. Facebook fails to disclose to advertisers that its Potential Reach statistic is inflated.

3 55. Plaintiffs DZ Reserve and Cain Maxwell read Facebook's "Potential Reach" prior to  
4 purchasing advertisements from Facebook, and they relied on Facebook's "Potential Reach" in making  
5 their decisions to purchase advertisements from Facebook.

6 56. Facebook's misrepresentation of the Potential Reach of its advertisements induced  
7 advertising purchasers (including Plaintiffs DZ Reserve and Cain Maxwell) to purchase  
8 advertisements, which they otherwise would not have purchased, because purchasers (including  
9 Plaintiffs DZ Reserve and Cain Maxwell) believed that more people could potentially be reached by  
10 their advertisements than possibly could have been.

11 57. Facebook's misrepresentation of the Potential Reach of its advertisements induced  
12 advertising purchasers (including DZ Reserve and Cain Maxwell) to pay more for Facebook advertising  
13 than they otherwise would have been willing to pay.

14 58. Facebook's misrepresentation of the Potential Reach of its advertisements thereby  
15 distorted the market price for its advertising by artificially increasing the price of Facebook advertising,  
16 causing advertising purchasers (including Plaintiffs DZ Reserve and Cain Maxwell) to pay more than  
17 they otherwise would have paid.

18 59. Facebook's misrepresentation of the Potential Reach of its advertisements provided  
19 Facebook with an unfair competitive advantage over other advertising platforms including other online  
20 advertising platforms, such as YouTube, LinkedIn, and Twitter.

21 **NEW FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

22 60. Facebook's internal documents show that Facebook personnel knew for years that the  
23 Potential Reach metric that it provides to Facebook advertisers on its advertisement purchasing  
24 interfaces (including on Ads Manager and Power Editor) was inflated and misleading.

25 61. Facebook's internal documents show that Facebook personnel knew its Potential Reach  
26 metric is a material representation that advertisers rely on. Internally, Facebook acknowledged in its  
27 own official documents that [REDACTED]  
28 [REDACTED]

1 [REDACTED]  
 2 [REDACTED]  
 3 [REDACTED]  
 4 [REDACTED]

62. Facebook employees acknowledged in internal documents that complaints about the Potential Reach being misleading have been made since approximately September 2015.

5 [REDACTED]  
 6 [REDACTED]

63. For example, in December 2016, the UK Advertising Standards Authority (UK ASA) complained to Facebook that the Potential Reach was misleading.

7 [REDACTED]  
 8 [REDACTED]  
 9 [REDACTED]

10 [REDACTED]

64. In the fall of 2017, the Video Advertising Bureau (VAB) published a report that alleged that Facebook's Potential Reach was inflated and exceeded the Census numbers. This report was referenced in Plaintiffs' Second Amended Complaint, and cited in ¶¶ 45-48 of the Third Amended Complaint as the VAB Report ("Report.")

11 [REDACTED]  
 12 [REDACTED]

13 [REDACTED] Among  
 14 the inflation identified by the Report, the Report found that Facebook's Potential Reach exceeds the  
 15 number of 18-34 residents in every state. Cf. ¶ 46, Figure 6.

16 [REDACTED]  
 17 [REDACTED]

66. In the fall of 2017, Facebook employees, including Facebook Chief Operating Officer Sheryl Sandberg, [REDACTED]

18 [REDACTED] Ms. Sandberg wrote:

19 [REDACTED]  
 20 [REDACTED]  
 21 [REDACTED]

22 [REDACTED]  
 23 [REDACTED]

67. In response to Ms. Sandberg's e-mail, a Facebook Vice President wrote to Ms. Sandberg and Dave Wehner (Facebook's Chief Financial Officer) that [REDACTED]

24 [REDACTED]  
 25 [REDACTED]

26 [REDACTED]  
 27 [REDACTED]  
 28 [REDACTED]

68. Facebook's failure to remove duplicate and fake accounts from its Potential Reach metric makes the metric fundamentally misleading; Facebook represents that Potential Reach is measurement of *people* (see ¶ 32) when Potential Reach is, at best, a measurement of *accounts*.

1 69. Facebook executives repeatedly acknowledged [REDACTED]  
2 [REDACTED]

3 70. Notwithstanding their own internal acknowledgement that Potential Reach was inflated,  
4 Facebook executives did nothing. Instead, Facebook took steps to obfuscate the issue, and even to  
5 cover it up.

6 71. First, instead of disclosing the inflation that it internally acknowledged, Facebook  
7 developed a set of talking points, by claiming, inter alia, that discrepancies between the census and its  
8 Potential Reach metric were due to travelers, and the fact that Potential Reach is not designed to match  
9 the census. Facebook never acknowledged externally what it admitted internally: that its Potential  
10 Reach metric was inflated, and that the inflation was partly due to duplicate and fake accounts.

11 72. Second, Facebook executives took steps to cover up the problem. [REDACTED]  
12 [REDACTED]  
13 [REDACTED]  
14 [REDACTED]  
15 [REDACTED]  
16 [REDACTED]  
17 [REDACTED]  
18 [REDACTED]  
19 [REDACTED]  
20 [REDACTED]  
21 [REDACTED]  
22 [REDACTED]

23 73. Facebook CFO Dave Wehner never disclosed, on the earnings call or elsewhere, the  
24 impact of duplicate and fake accounts in Facebook's MAU on its Potential Reach calculation.

25 74. Facebook's internal documents show that Facebook employees had widespread  
26 knowledge that Potential Reach is based on monthly active users. For example, Facebook employees  
27 wrote, "The potential reach comes from the [system used to calculate Potential Reach] – it's the MAU"  
28 and that "Potential Reach reflects the number of monthly active users."

1       75. However, in order to conceal that Potential Reach includes duplicate and fake accounts  
 2 due to inflation in Facebook's Monthly Active Users, Facebook obfuscated the close relationship  
 3 between monthly active users and Potential Reach. Thus, Facebook Marketing Manager Amy Dunn  
 4 told fellow marketing and sales employees, "It's important to also remember that Potential Reach is not  
 5 MAU but are estimates of people that ads may reach with a campaign. We have recently put out some  
 6 messaging to help clarify that with advertisers."

7       76. Facebook marketing employees [REDACTED]

8 [REDACTED]

9 [REDACTED]

10 [REDACTED]

11 [REDACTED]

12 [REDACTED]

13 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

14 [REDACTED]

15       77. In early 2018, Facebook employees continued to debate whether to fix the Potential  
 16 Reach metric and whether to disclose the truth about the inflation of its Potential Reach.

17       78. Facebook executives held no fewer than four major meetings in early 2018 to discuss  
 18 Potential Reach inflation. For example, on April 19, 2018, several senior employees met to discuss the  
 19 issue, including that [REDACTED]

20 [REDACTED]

21       79. By February 2018, Facebook had already conducted extensive analysis about how to  
 22 reduce the Potential Reach inflation:

23 [REDACTED]

24 [REDACTED]

25 [REDACTED]

26

27

---

<sup>38</sup> Facebook's Monthly Active People metric is also very similar to its Monthly Active Users metric.

1 80. Yaron Fidler (the former Product Manager for Potential Reach) [REDACTED]  
2 [REDACTED]  
3 [REDACTED]

4 81. In March 2018, Fidler [REDACTED]  
5 [REDACTED]  
6 [REDACTED]  
7 [REDACTED]

8 82. Fidler [REDACTED]  
9 [REDACTED] Fidler wrote:  
10 [REDACTED]  
11 [REDACTED]  
12 [REDACTED]

13 83. But, before any corrections to the Potential Reach metric could be made – and the truth  
14 disclosed – the decision had to be reviewed by the so-called “Central Metrics XFN” team, comprised  
15 of “leadership across several product orgs, engineering, sales, legal, audit, finance, comms/pr, policy,  
16 analytics, and more.” The mission of the Central Metrics XFN team is to “[p]rotect the trust of our  
17 partners in external metrics, **while minimizing the restriction of this on revenue or innovation.**”  
18 (emphasis added).

19 84. On April 12, 2018, Fidler met with the “Central Metrics XFN” team to discuss making  
20 corrections to the Potential Reach metric – but his proposals were rejected. Central Metrics XFN  
21 participant (and Vice President of Growth Marketing & Analytics) Alex Schultz [REDACTED]  
22 [REDACTED]  
23 [REDACTED]

24 85. Another Central Metrics XFN team member told Schultz that the team had treated Fidler  
25 unfairly:  
26 [REDACTED]  
27 [REDACTED]  
28 [REDACTED]

1

2 [REDACTED]  
3 86. In the summer of 2018, Facebook employees continued to express concern about  
4 Potential Reach inflation. As one Facebook employee wrote on July 12, 2018: “My question lately is:  
5 how long can we get away with the reach overestimation?”

6 [REDACTED]  
7 [REDACTED]  
8 [REDACTED]  
9 [REDACTED]

10 88. Multiple Facebook employees [REDACTED]  
11 [REDACTED]  
12 [REDACTED]

13 89. No later than September 2018, Facebook employees also discovered another reason that  
14 the Potential Reach was inflated: Potential Reach included users who were never served  
15 advertisements. Facebook did not correct this problem until March 2019. Facebook’s March 2019  
16 change [REDACTED]

17 90. Despite making this correction in March 2019, Facebook still failed to remove the  
18 duplicate or fake accounts from Potential Reach calculation.

19 91. As Mr. Fidler’s proposals continued to be rejected throughout 2018, he grew  
20 increasingly frustrated. He wrote in October 2018 that Facebook’s Potential Reach calculation was “a  
21 lawsuit waiting to happen.” Fidler further observed “this is just like video.”<sup>39</sup> Mr. Fidler left Facebook  
22 late in 2018.

23 92. As of March 3, 2020, Facebook still provides a Potential Reach metric to advertisers  
24 that states that it measures a number of people. As of March 3, 2020, Facebook still has not removed  
25 the fake and duplicate accounts from its Potential Reach calculation.  
26

27 \_\_\_\_\_  
28 <sup>39</sup> In late 2016, Facebook acknowledged that two of its video advertising performance metrics  
were inflated.

1                    **PLAINTIFFS' EXPERIENCES**

2                 93. As noted above, Facebook's Potential Reach is vastly inflated at the national, state,  
 3 and local levels. Thus, the inflation impacted the Potential Reach and Estimated Reach of Plaintiffs'  
 4 advertising campaigns on Facebook.

5                    ***DZ Reserve***

6                 94. Plaintiff DZ Reserve is a company incorporated and headquartered in Colorado.

7                 95. Plaintiff DZ Reserve operates several e-commerce stores.

8                 96. Between December 2017 and December 2018, Plaintiff DZ Reserve ran advertising  
 9 campaigns on Facebook platforms (including Facebook and Instagram platforms).

10                97. Over this time period, Plaintiff DZ Reserve paid Facebook approximately \$ 1 million  
 11 dollars for Facebook advertisements.

12                98. Plaintiff DZ Reserve read Facebook's "Potential Reach" prior to purchasing  
 13 advertisements from Facebook, and Plaintiff DZ Reserve relied on Facebook's "Potential Reach" in  
 14 making Plaintiff's decision to purchase advertisements from Facebook.

15                99. Plaintiff DZ Reserve read Facebook's "Estimated Daily Results Reach" prior to  
 16 purchasing advertisements from Facebook, and Plaintiff DZ Reserve relied on Facebook's "Estimated  
 17 Daily Results Reach" and in making Plaintiff's decision to purchase advertisements from Facebook.

18                100. Plaintiff DZ Reserve ran nationwide campaigns, as well as campaigns targeted at  
 19 specific cities, including, but not limited to, Los Angeles and New York City.

20                101. Plaintiff DZ Reserve wishes and intends to purchase additional advertisements from  
 21 Facebook in the future. However, if Facebook continues to inflate its Potential Reach and Estimated  
 22 Daily Results Reach, it will be difficult for Plaintiff DZ Reserve to trust Facebook's representations  
 23 about the Potential Reach and Estimated Daily Results Reach of Plaintiff's Facebook advertisements  
 24 or other statistics provided by Facebook about Facebook advertisements.

25                    ***Cain Maxwell***

26                102. Plaintiff Cain Maxwell ("Maxwell"), d/b/a Max Martialis, is a citizen and resident of  
 27 the state of Ohio.

28                103. From approximately September 2018 to May 2019, Maxwell ran advertising campaigns

1 on Facebook platforms (including the Facebook platform).

2 104. Over this time period, Maxwell paid Facebook approximately \$ 400 for Facebook  
3 advertisements.

4 105. Plaintiff Maxwell read Facebook's "Potential Reach" prior to purchasing  
5 advertisements from Facebook, and Plaintiff Maxwell relied on Facebook's "Potential Reach" in  
6 making his decision to purchase advertisements from Facebook.

7 106. Plaintiff Maxwell read Facebook's "Estimated Daily Results Reach" prior to purchasing  
8 advertisements from Facebook, and Plaintiff Maxwell relied on Facebook's "Estimated Daily Results  
9 Reach" in making his decision to purchase advertisements from Facebook.

10 107. Plaintiff Maxwell ran nationwide campaigns.

11 108. Plaintiff Maxwell wishes and intends to purchase additional advertisements from  
12 Facebook in the future. However, if Facebook continues to inflate its Potential Reach and Estimated  
13 Daily Results Reach, it will be difficult for Plaintiff Maxwell to trust Facebook's representations about  
14 the Potential Reach and Estimated Daily Results Reach of Plaintiff's Facebook advertisements or other  
15 statistics provided by Facebook about Facebook advertisements.

#### CLASS ALLEGATIONS

17 109. Plaintiffs re-alleges and incorporates by reference herein all of the allegations  
18 contained above.

19 110. Pursuant to the Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(b)(3), Plaintiff asserts claims on  
20 behalf of the following "Class": All persons or entities who, from January 1, 2013, to the present  
21 ("Class Period"), had an account with Facebook, Inc., and who paid for placement of advertisements  
22 on Facebook's platforms, including the Facebook and Instagram platforms. Excluded from the Class  
23 are Defendant, any entity in which Defendant has a controlling interest, and Defendant's officers,  
24 directors, legal representatives, successors, subsidiaries, and assigns. Also excluded from the Class is  
25 any judge, justice, or judicial officer presiding over this matter and the members of their immediate  
26 families and judicial staff.

27 111. This action has been brought and may properly be maintained as a class action as it  
28 satisfies the numerosity, commonality, typicality, adequacy, and superiority requirements of Rule

1 23(b)(3). Plaintiffs seek to represent an ascertainable Class, as determining inclusion in the class can  
 2 be done through Facebook's own records.

3 112. Plaintiffs reserve the right to amend the Class definition if discovery and further  
 4 investigation reveal that the Class should be expanded, divided into subclasses, or modified in any  
 5 other way.

6 113. Although the precise number of Class members is unknown and can only be  
 7 determined through appropriate discovery, Plaintiffs believe, and on that basis alleges, that the  
 8 proposed Class is so numerous that joinder of all members would be impracticable as Facebook sells  
 9 millions of advertisements annually to hundreds of thousands or even millions of advertisers.

10 114. Questions of law and fact common to the putative Class predominate over questions  
 11 affecting only individual members, including inter alia:

12 a. Whether Facebook made material misrepresentations about its advertising services,  
 13 including misrepresenting its Potential Reach; and

14 b. Whether Facebook breached its contractual duty to perform competently and with  
 15 reasonable care by providing its inflated Potential Reach.

16 115. Plaintiffs are members of the putative Class. The claims asserted by Plaintiffs in this  
 17 action are typical of the claims of the members of the putative Class, as the claims arise from the  
 18 same course of conduct by the Defendant and the relief sought is common.

19 116. Plaintiffs will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the members  
 20 of the putative Class, as their interests are coincident with, and not antagonistic to, the other members  
 21 of the putative Class.

22 117. Plaintiffs have retained counsel competent and experienced in both consumer  
 23 protection and class action litigation. Plaintiffs' counsel has experience litigating some of the largest  
 24 and most complex consumer class actions, including numerous consumer class actions in the  
 25 Northern District of California.

26 118. Certification of the Class is appropriate pursuant to Fed. Rule of Civil Procedure  
 27 23(b)(3) because questions of law or fact common to the respective members of the Class  
 28 predominate over questions of law or fact affecting only individual members. This predominance

makes class litigation superior to any other method available for the fair and efficient adjudication of these claims including consistency of adjudications. Absent a class action it would be highly unlikely that the members of the Class would be able to protect their own interests because the cost of litigation through individual lawsuits might exceed the expected recovery.

119. A class action is a superior method for the adjudication of the controversy in that it will permit a large number of claims to be resolved in a single forum simultaneously, efficiently, and without the unnecessary hardship that would result from the prosecution of numerous individual actions and the duplication of discovery, effort, expense, and the burden of the courts that individual actions would create.

120. In the alternative, the Class should be certified pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(b)(2) because:

- a. The prosecution of separate actions by the individual members of the proposed class would create a risk of inconsistent adjudications, which could establish incompatible standards of conduct for Facebook;
- b. The prosecution of individual actions could result in adjudications, which as a practical matter, would be dispositive of the interests of non-party class members or which would substantially impair their ability to protect their interests; and
- c. Facebook has acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable to the proposed Class, thereby making appropriate final and injunctive relief with respect to the members of the proposed Class as a whole.

**FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**CALIFORNIA UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW,**  
**CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE § 17200, et seq.**<sup>40</sup>

121. Plaintiffs re-allege and incorporate by reference herein all of the allegations contained above.

<sup>122</sup> Facebook violated California's Unfair Competition Law (UCL), Cal. Bus. & Prof.

<sup>40</sup> Pursuant to Facebook's terms of service, the laws of the State of California govern "any claim" that arises between Facebook and its users, "without regard to conflict of law provisions." Facebook,

1 Code §17200 et seq., by engaging in the fraudulent and unfair business acts and practices alleged  
 2 previously, and as further specified below.

3       123. Facebook's misrepresentation of the Potential Reach of advertisements constitutes a  
 4 fraudulent practice under the UCL, as it deceived Class members into believing that their  
 5 advertisements could potentially reach more people than their advertisement could actually reach.

6       124. Facebook fails to disclose to advertisers the extent to which the Potential Reach  
 7 statistic is inflated. This omission constitutes a fraudulent practice under the UCL, as it deceived  
 8 Class members into believing that their advertisements could potentially reach more people than their  
 9 advertisement could actually reach.

10      125. Facebook's failure properly to audit and verify the accuracy of its Potential Reach  
 11 statistics before disseminating them to Class members is unethical, unscrupulous, and substantially  
 12 injurious to advertising purchasers, and thus constitutes an unfair practice under the UCL. The harm  
 13 these practices caused to Plaintiffs and the Class members outweigh their utility, if any.

14      126. Facebook should have known that its Potential Reach was inaccurate and inflated, and  
 15 had Facebook properly audited and verified its Potential Reach, it would have known that the  
 16 Potential Reach is inaccurate and inflated. The Potential Reach inflation would have been caught by  
 17 a reasonable auditing and verification process.

18      127. Facebook's failure to employ reasonable auditing and verification procedures gives it  
 19 an unfair competitive advantage, as it allowed Facebook to provide advertising services at a lower  
 20 cost and made those advertising services appear to be more effective than they were.

21      128. Plaintiffs have standing to bring these claims under the UCL because they were  
 22 injured and lost money or property, including but not limited to money paid for Facebook  
 23 advertisements, as a result of Facebook's fraudulent and unfair business practices. Among other  
 24 things, Plaintiffs would not have bought as much advertising services if Facebook had not  
 25 disseminated an inflated Potential Reach statistic, and Plaintiffs would have paid a lower price for the  
 26 advertising services they did purchase.

---

27  
 28 *Statement of Rights and Responsibilities*, <https://www.facebook.com/terms> (last accessed: June 17,  
 2019).

129. Pursuant to Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203, Plaintiffs seek equitable relief to prevent the continued use of Facebook's unfair and fraudulent practices and to restore to the Class all money Facebook may have acquired by means of its fraudulent and unfair business practices.

**SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**QUASI-CONTRACT CLAIM FOR RESTITUTION**

130. Plaintiffs re-allege and incorporate by reference herein all of the allegations contained above.

131. Plaintiffs seek restitution in quasi contract, in the alternative, in the event that the trier of fact ultimately determines that a contract did not exist between Plaintiffs and Facebook.

132. Facebook's inflated Potential Reach made advertising on its platform appear more effective and valuable than it really was—leading Plaintiffs and the Class to pay more money to Facebook for advertising services than they otherwise would have paid.

133. Facebook knew about, accepted, and benefited from Plaintiffs' and Class members' purchase of these advertising services.

134. Under the circumstances, it would be inequitable for Facebook to benefit from its inaccurate and inflated Potential Reach calculation and its persistent failure to correct the error. To avoid injustice, Plaintiffs and the Class accordingly seeks restitution and/or disgorgement of profits in an amount to be proven at trial.

### THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

135. Plaintiffs re-allege and incorporate by reference herein all of the allegations contained above.

136. Plaintiffs and Class members contracted with Facebook to provide them with advertising services.

137. These contracts were subject to implied covenants of good faith and fair dealing that all parties would act in good faith and with reasonable efforts to perform their contractual duties (both explicit and fairly implied) and not to impair the rights of other parties to receive the rights, benefits, and reasonable expectations under the contracts. These included the covenants that Facebook would act fairly and in good faith in carrying out its contractual obligations to provide Plaintiffs and Class

members with accurate Potential Reach and Estimated Daily Reach of Plaintiffs and Class members' advertising.

138. Facebook did not act in good faith and fair dealing to provide Plaintiffs and Class members with accurate Potential Reach and Estimated Daily Reach of Plaintiffs and Class members' advertising. For example, instead of implementing a reasonable process to ensure the accuracy of its Potential Reach and Estimated Daily Reach, Facebook primarily relied on ad hoc written complaints from Facebook users and ineffective algorithms to assure accuracy.

139. Plaintiffs and Class members met all or substantially all of their contractual obligations, including submitting their advertising for Facebook's approval and paying for Facebook's advertising services.

140. Facebook's failure to act in good faith in providing accurate Potential Reach and Estimated Daily Reach denied Plaintiffs and Class members the full benefit of their bargain. Plaintiffs and Class members received advertising services that were less valuable than what they paid for and less valuable than their reasonable expectations under the contracts. Plaintiffs and Class members were damaged by an amount at least equal to this overpayment.

141. Accordingly, Plaintiffs have been injured as a result of Facebook's breach of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing and are entitled to damages and/or restitution in an amount to be proven at trial.

**FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**FRAUDULENT MISREPRESENTATION**

142. Plaintiffs re-allege and incorporate by reference herein all of the allegations contained above.

143. Facebook falsely represents the Potential Reach of its advertisements. Because of Facebook's method of calculating Potential Reach, Potential Reach exceeds the number of people in an advertisement set's target audience.

144. Facebook also falsely represents that Potential Reach is a measurement of people when it is a measurement of accounts. Potential Reach is not a measurement of people because it includes fake and duplicate accounts.

145. Facebook either knew that the representations in paragraphs 148-149 were false or

1 Facebook made these representations recklessly and without regard for their truth. Facebook  
 2 employees have received complaints about Potential Reach being misleading since September 2015.  
 3 In the fall of 2017, Facebook senior executives, including Sheryl Sandberg, [REDACTED]  
 4 [REDACTED]. In 2017 and 2018, Facebook executives repeatedly stated in  
 5 internal communications that [REDACTED]  
 6 [REDACTED]. Despite multiple meetings in 2017 and 2018 in which Facebook executives  
 7 discussed [REDACTED]  
 8 [REDACTED], Facebook continues to this day to provide an inflated Potential Reach  
 9 metric that measures accounts rather than people.

10 146. Facebook intended that Plaintiffs and Class members rely on its Potential Reach  
 11 metric. Facebook knew that its advertising customers [REDACTED]  
 12 [REDACTED]

13 147. Plaintiffs and Class members did reasonably rely on Facebook's Potential Reach  
 14 representations in paragraphs 148-149 when deciding whether they would purchase advertising from  
 15 Facebook and how much advertising to purchase from Facebook. As a result of Facebook's  
 16 misrepresentations, Plaintiffs and Class members were harmed: Plaintiffs and Class members  
 17 purchased more advertising from Facebook than they otherwise would have and paid a higher price  
 18 than they would otherwise have.

19 148. Plaintiffs seek an award of compensatory and punitive damages. Facebook's conduct  
 20 as previously described constitutes oppression, fraud, or malice, and was authorized or ratified by  
 21 Facebook's officers.

22 **FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**FRAUDULENT CONCEALMENT**

23 149. Plaintiffs re-allege and incorporate by reference herein all of the allegations contained  
 24 above.

25 150. Facebook conceals from Plaintiffs and Class members that Facebook's Potential  
 26 Reach metric is inflated and misleading, and conceals that it is inflated in part due to duplicate and  
 27 fake accounts in Facebook's user base and MAUs. Facebook also conceals that Potential Reach is  
 28 calculated using accounts, not people.

1 151. In November 2017, Facebook CFO David Wehner [REDACTED]  
 2 [REDACTED]  
 3 [REDACTED]

4 152. Instead, Facebook created and disseminated a fiction: that MAU and Potential Reach  
 5 are unrelated. Facebook has used this fiction to conceal that the Potential Reach metric includes  
 6 duplicate and fake accounts.

7 153. Facebook has a duty to disclose to Plaintiffs and Class members that Potential Reach  
 8 is inflated and misleading; that it includes duplicate and fake accounts; and that it is calculated based  
 9 on accounts rather than people because Facebook has exclusive knowledge of these material facts.

10 154. Facebook has a duty to disclose to Plaintiffs and Class members that Potential Reach  
 11 is inflated and misleading; that it includes duplicate and fake accounts; and that it is calculated based  
 12 on accounts rather than people because Facebook actively concealed these material facts from  
 13 Plaintiffs and Class members.

14 155. Facebook has a duty to disclose to Plaintiffs and Class members that Potential Reach  
 15 is inflated and misleading; that it includes duplicate and fake accounts; and that it calculated based on  
 16 accounts rather than people because Facebook makes a partial representation by providing the  
 17 Potential Reach metric to Plaintiffs and Class members while also suppressing these material facts.

18 156. Because of Facebook's omissions and concealment, Plaintiffs and Class members did  
 19 not know when they purchased Facebook advertisements that the Potential Reach was inflated and  
 20 misleading; that it included duplicate and fake accounts; or that Potential Reach was calculated based  
 21 on accounts rather than people.

22 157. Facebook intentionally concealed that Potential Reach is inflated and misleading; that  
 23 it includes duplicate and fake accounts; and that it is calculated based on accounts rather than people  
 24 with the intention of defrauding Plaintiffs and Class members.

25 158. Plaintiffs and Class members would have acted differently had they known that  
 26 Potential Reach is inflated and misleading; that Potential Reach includes duplicate and fake accounts;  
 27 and that Potential Reach is calculated based on accounts rather than people. They would have  
 28 purchased fewer (if any) Facebook advertisements and they would have paid a lower price.

159. As a result of Facebook's concealment and omissions described in this complaint, Plaintiffs and Class members were harmed: Plaintiffs and Class members purchased more advertising from Facebook than they otherwise would have and paid a higher price than they would otherwise have.

160. Plaintiffs seek an award of compensatory and punitive damages. Facebook's conduct as previously described constitutes oppression, fraud, or malice, and was authorized or ratified by Facebook's officers.

## PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs DZ Reserve and Cain Maxwell, on behalf of themselves and the Class, seek the following relief:

A. An order certifying this action as a class action under Fed. R. Civ. P. 23, defining the Class as requested herein, appointing Geoffrey Graber of Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll PLLC, as Class Counsel, and finding that Plaintiffs are proper representatives of the Class requested herein.

B. Plaintiffs request injunctive relief. Awarding injunctive and other equitable relief as is necessary to protect the interests of the Class, including: (i) an order prohibiting Facebook from engaging in the wrongful acts described herein; (ii) requiring Facebook to engage third-party auditors to conduct audits and evaluations of Facebook’s purported user base and its Potential Reach, and ordering them to promptly correct any problems or issues detected by these auditors, and (iii) requiring Facebook to disclose any further inaccuracies with respect to its user base in a timely and accurate manner.

C. Plaintiffs also request damages, restitution, punitive damages, attorneys' fees, statutory costs, and such other and further relief as is just and proper. Plaintiffs seek attorneys' fees under California Code of Civil Procedure 1021.5.

**JURY TRIAL DEMAND**

Pursuant to Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiffs hereby demand trial by jury in this action of all issues so triable.

Respectfully submitted,

DATED: April 15, 2020

By: /s/ *Geoffrey Graber*  
Geoffrey Graber

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